

CAA News

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CENSUS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ❖ September 2006

REUNION LUNCHEON

We hope you already sent in your reservation for the luncheon at Rosecroft Raceway on September 29. If you have any questions, contact Ezilda Gorman at ezilda@erols.com.

News From Alumni

[Please let us hear from you; your former coworkers and friends want to know what you've been up to.]

Eunice Herr and her husband Jack are enjoying their new condominium in Englewood, FL. Eunice retired from the Bureau in 1997, after which she and Jack built a home in Galesville, MD. Eunice's mother, Audrey Maynard, who also retired from the Bureau, lived there with them until her death in 2002. They all stayed very busy with community and church work, boating, gardening, and travel.

Bob Stefan, who retired from Finance Division, and wife Joy continue to enjoy life in Arkansas's best kept secret, Hot Springs Village. Bob says, "We still enjoy the many amenities and new friends we have made since moving here in 2001. Golf has become much like having a job, except it is more fun. The hours are convenient, and the weather is much better than in Suitland. Last year I played close to 200 times.

"We spent a few weeks this spring in Japan visiting our older daughter, her husband, and three granddaughters. We saw many sites, including Nagasaki and Hiroshima. People were very friendly and made our trip memorable. We were invited to a reception the Japanese Navy held for U.S. Navy personnel and guests. We met an official of the SSK Japanese shipbuilding facility, who invited us on a private tour of the facility. The tour included forging, milling and construction of a ship's components for the hull, crankshaft, and ballasts.

We are looking forward to boating, swimming, kayaking, and fishing again. And we hope that

friends from Census find time to visit us this year. We welcome e-mail at joybob1969@sbcglobal.net.

Jerry Mann reported on his recent trip to the Canadian Rockies: We began this 14-day trip with 3 enjoyable days in Vancouver and 2 on Vancouver Island. While on the island, we stopped at Chemainus, the "World Famous City of Murals," where 35 of the buildings have murals painted on their sides, and at Duncan, "City of Totems," which contains over 80 totem poles. We also visited Butchart Gardens, a 50-acre floral extravaganza of Japanese, Italian, rose, and sunken gardens built on the site of old rock quarries. We visited the Royal B.C. Museum In Victoria and enjoyed High Tea at the Empress Hotel. In Vancouver we toured Stanley Park and visited Chinatown and colorful Gas Town, where the famous steam-powered clock stands.

We left Vancouver on the Rocky Mountaineer train for "The most spectacular train ride in the world." After an overnight stay in Kamloops, we began our 185-mile trip to Banff. Along the way we saw towering mountains and glittering icefields and glaciers, and we got to walk around on the Athabasca Glacier. Then we enjoyed a lovely buffet lunch at the Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise. Lake Louise and the rivers feeding into it look as if someone spilled an enormous amount of aqua-colored paint, an effect caused by the "rock flour" picked up by the water.

Our next stop was Banff National Park, Canada's oldest and most scenic national park. The city of Banff is nestled in a charming valley surrounded by high mountains of all different shapes. On our drives around the area we saw bears, moose, deer, and elk. Our last stop was Calgary, where we the Olympic Park, home of the 1988 Winter Games; Stampede Park, home of the famous Calgary Stampede (which had concluded the day before we arrived); and the Calgary Tower.

This trip (with Grand Circle Travel) included the most spectacular scenery in North America.

Bill Wester and his wife, Ann, just completed a 7,000-mile trip to Grants, NM, to visit daughter Sarah, her husband John, and their first grandchild, Benjamin (3 months). The trip included many tourist sights along the way in NC, TN, AL, MS, and TX. On the return trip to VA they stopped in Colorado Springs, CO, Dodge City, KS, and Kansas City; then enjoyed a week-long visit with relatives in St. Louis. Bill retired in 2002 from ESMPD (Economic Statistical Methods and Programming Division) and has completed 4 years teaching MS-Office and Java programming at Bishop Ireton HS in Alexandria, VA.

DEATHS

[Please send us obituaries of former Census Bureau employees that you see in papers outside the DC area.]

Daniel B. Rathbun, 88, died April 25 at a health-care facility in Portland, ME. He had autonomic dystrophy. He went to work for the Census Bureau in 1960 after teaching at UC Berkeley and Fresno State University. He left the Bureau in 1962 to work as a systems analyst in the office of the secretary of defense. Survivors include his wife of 64 years, Betty Rathbun, one daughter, two sons, a sister, and seven grandchildren.

Mabel Sullivan Cook, 90, passed away on May 10 in Franklin, MA. Mabel worked at the Census Bureau as a field representative in Field Division and retired at age 86 (!) in 2002. Survivors include her son Edward, his wife Michelle, and three grandchildren. All who knew her will miss Mabel's quick Irish wit and warm friendliness. Donations in Mabel's name may be sent to Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, 220 North Main Street # 104, Natick, MA 01760.

Lawrence A. Marzetti, 89, died at home May 13. Survivors include his wife Josephine, a brother, four sons, a daughter, 10 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Nancy A. Gratton died at home June 11, following a short battle with melanoma. She began her career in the Personnel Division as an occupational health nurse and later served for many years as the chief nurse and employee assistance program coordinator. In 1993 she received the Bronze Medal award for

outstanding service. Following her retirement in 1997, she and her husband enjoyed traveling. Survivors include her husband, Dr. Thomas A. Gratton, a daughter, and three grandchildren.

Ida Bernice Savoy died June 18. Bernice was working in the Journey-to-Work and Migration Branch when she retired from the Bureau of the Census in October 1994. Her entire federal career was in the Population Division, with a short 2 months (at the beginning of her service) in the Foreign Trade Division. Bernice retired after 30 years of service. After her retirement, she often came to visit her friends in Population Division. She was a volunteer in the Prince George's County School System and very active in her church (St. John's in Clinton).

David N. Cohen, 95, former chief statistician at the Census Bureau, died of pneumonia at Laurel Regional Hospital, MD, June 8. He also had Alzheimer's disease. He worked for the Bureau for more than 30 years, retiring in 1975. He then consulted on special projects for the Bureau. He received the Commerce Meritorious Service Award in 1959, a congressional letter of recognition in 1960, a certificate from President Nixon in 1971 for his work on wage and price controls, and the Commerce Gold Medal Award in 1973. His wife, Alyce Eckhardt Cohen, died in 2002, and there are no immediate family survivors.

John Berry, after a long and valiant struggle, died peacefully June 23 with his family present at Washington Hospital Center. John's career at the Census Bureau spanned the period from 1982 to 1993, when he retired. He was formerly chief of Agriculture Division. John is survived by his wife Carol, two children, and three stepchildren.

Harlan Rainey of Lecanto, FL, died June 1. He retired in 1979 from Industry Division, and previously worked in Systems Division. No further information was available.

Edna V. Harper, 96, died August 19 of a stroke at Asbury Methodist Village in Gaithersburg, where she had lived since 1977. She started work with the Census Bureau in 1930 and left in 1934 to join the Labor Department. Her husband, Milton T. Harper, died in 1974. There are no immediate survivors.

Need to Find a Good Nursing Home?

The federal government conducts an annual survey of nursing homes across the country, and the reports are available to the general public. If you have a specific place in mind, you can go to the nursing home and ask to see a copy of their survey results. You can also go to www.medicare.gov and click on Nursing Home Compare. You can then search for nursing home information by name or proximity to a ZIP Code. The data include a number of factors related to patient care.

Those Jolly Old English!

These signs were actually seen across the pond:

- (In a laundromat) Automatic washing machines: Please remove all your clothes when the light goes out.
- (Outside a photographer's studio) Out to Lunch. If not back by five, out for dinner also.
- (In a health food shop window) Closed due to illness.
- (Sign posted in a field) The farmer allows walkers to cross the field for free, but the bull charges.
- (In a repair shop window) We can repair anything. (Please knock hard on door, as the bell doesn't work.)
- (On the door of an office building loo) Toilet out of order. Please use floor below.

Oral Histories

You can access transcripts of fascinating oral history interviews with current and former Census directors and other officials on the Bureau's Web site. Here's how:

Go to www.census.gov

Using the search function at the top of the home page, click on "Census.gov".

In the unshaded space provided, enter "oral history" and click on "Go".

When you get the results of the Google search, click on the one you want to see.

Interviews are available for the following:

Directors: Vincent Barabba, Barbara Bryant, Ross Eckler, John Keane, Louis Kincannon, Martha Riche, Richard Scammon

Others: William Butz, Joseph Daly, Edwin Goldfield, Robert Hagan, Morris Hansen, Shirley Kalleck, Daniel Levine, Conrad Taeuber, Arthur Young

Thoughts to Consider

- We cannot direct the wind, but we can adjust our sails. (Bertha Calloway)
- The bitterest tears shed over graves are for words left unsaid and deeds left undone. (Stowe)

Combat Identity Theft

If you discover that you have become a victim of identity theft, here are actions you should take:

- Contact one of the major credit bureaus—Equifax at 1-800-525-6285, Experian at 1-888-397-3742, or Transunion at 1-800-680-7289—and place a 90-day fraud alert on your credit file. Also request a free copy of your credit report.
- Keep detailed written records of conversations and e-mails you have with police and financial companies.
- Put it in writing. Visit the FTC Web site at www.consumer.gov/idtheft for form letters to track your correspondence with banks, investment companies, credit card issuers, DMV, and others.
- Keep track of time and expenses you incur, in case you are able to seek restitution later. You may also be able to deduct theft-related expenses.

How to Avoid Crippling Falls

Older people are more prone to suffer falls resulting in broken bones. This is partly because over time, our sense of balance weakens. But it can be improved by practicing a few simple exercises:

- While brushing your teeth, stand on one leg and move the other, bent at the knee, through space. Alternate legs every 15 seconds.
- After you become good at that, try standing on one leg with your eyes closed. Over time, you should be able to hold it for at least 20 seconds.

Be sure to have something to grab onto while doing these exercises in case you start to topple.

Words of Warning

If you see an advertisement or receive a piece of mail that includes any of the following phrases, it is probably a scam:

- There is no risk involved
- You can get in on the ground floor
- This offer is available only for the next 5 days
- Profits of 15 to 30 percent guaranteed
- A once-in-a-lifetime opportunity

New Help with Elder Care

Useful information for locating home care, assisted living facilities, and nursing homes can be found at a new Web site, www.alz.org/carefinder, sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association. You can enter information about your specific situation and get a customized report, including care recommendations and questions to ask providers.

Rip-Off Protection

Before you commit your money to anything, check the Rip-Off Report at www.ripoffreport.com, as well as the Consumer Forum Web site at www.consumeraffairs.com. The national Better Business Bureau Web site is www.bbb.org.

Exercise May Help Prevent Dementia

Older people who exercise three or more times a week are less likely to develop Alzheimer's and other types of dementia, according to a study published in the *Annals of Internal Medicine*. One of the study's authors, Dr. Wayne McCormick, said, "The surprising finding for us was that it didn't actually take much [exercise] to have this effect." Even light activity such as walking helped.

CAA News is published three times a year by the Census Alumni Association; Jerry Mann, editor.

Deadlines for submissions:

January issue Dec. 10
May issue Apr. 10
September issue Aug. 10

Your contributions are welcome on any subject of interest to former Census Bureau employees, especially news of yourselves and your families. Please send contributions to gmann928@hotmail.com or to CAA, P.O. Box 1480, Suitland, MD 20752. (E-mail is preferred.) Send address corrections to ezilda@erols.com.

Past issues of the newsletter can be seen at www.census.gov/alumni.